

What is claimed is:

1. A printer with a plurality of print recording material reservoirs equipped with memory devices, the printer comprising:

5        signal lines connecting via bus connection each memory device with which the plurality of print recording material reservoirs is equipped;

         an attachment determining unit determining whether each of the plurality of print recording material reservoirs is attached; and

         a communication determining unit determining whether communication is  
10       possible with each of the memory devices via the signal lines when all of the plurality of print recording material reservoirs is determined to be attached.

2. A printer in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

         a malfunctioning print recording material reservoir identifying unit identifying a  
15       print recording material reservoir in which a communication malfunction has developed, when the communication determining unit determines that communication is not possible with all of the memory devices.

3. A printer in accordance with claim 2, wherein the communication determining  
20       unit determines whether communication is possible with all of the memory devices, when the plurality of print recording material reservoirs has been moved to a position in which the print recording material reservoirs cannot be removed.

4. A method of communicating with a plurality of print recording material  
25       reservoirs equipped with memory devices, wherein the print recording material reservoirs are detachably mounted on a printer, the method comprising:

         determining whether the plurality of print recording material reservoirs is all attached; and

         determining whether communication is possible with each of the memory  
30       devices via the signal lines when all of the plurality of print recording material reservoirs

is determined to be attached.

5. A method in accordance with claim 4, further comprising:

identifying a print recording material reservoir in which a communication

5 malfunction has developed, when the communication determining unit determines that communication is not possible with all of the memory devices.

6. A method in accordance with claim 5, wherein the determining whether communication is possible is implemented by determining whether communication is

10 possible with all of the memory devices, when the plurality of print recording material reservoirs has been moved to a position in which the print recording material reservoirs cannot be removed.